第2話 はだかの王様と嘘吐き執事 II

STOP IT RIGHT THERE!!
!?
SO...
YOU WERE THE CULPRIT ALL ALONG,

YUKIKURA SHUN.
TH- THAT'S WRONG
I DIDN'T DO.
PUT THAT TRASH BAG DOWN.
UM.
IMPOSSIBLE. I DIDN'T THINK.

WE'LL TALK LATER
CAN YOU OPEN THAT BAG ?
PLEASE KAEI-SAMA
DON'T TELL MY MOTHER—
OPEN IT!!
ゴト…

HERE YOU GO KAEI-SAMA...
WHAT...?
KISARAGI
YOU THOUGHT YOU COULD TAKE IT OUT OF HERE BY PUTTING IT IN THE TRASH
YES
!?
.....
!!

There's nothing...?
WHERE ARE ITS CONTENTS?!
I'M SORRY!!
...SO YOU SOLD IT.
YOU WOULD'VE SOLD IT FOR A HIGHER PRICE WITH THE BOX.
I DIDN'T SELL IT.

I...
BROKE IT...
BROKE IT?
WHEN I HELPED MY AUNT
WITH CLEANING THE UTEN-SILS,
I FOUND THE NAME OF THE CUP MY MOM LIKED...
I WANTED TO SEE IT...
YES

AND...
WHEN I SEARCHED THE WEB I FOUND OUT THAT IT COSTED A FORTUNE
I GOT SCARED AND KEPT QUITE ABOUT IT
WHY DIDN'T YOU THROW THE BROKEN CUP WITH IT?
.....
BECAUSE THE DAY OF NON-BURNABLE GARBAGE IS TOMOR-ROW

If that's the case, then he's really cunning—...
If he delayed the destruction of the evidence, the risk of being found out would be higher
Or did he think that his crime would be lighter if he made it look like an accident instead of a theft...
Is he really that serious about his work...?
PLEASE...
I'M RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL OF THIS...
PLEASE DON'T FIRE MY MOTHER
MY MOTHER VALUES HER JOB HERE VERY HIGHLY
PLEASE

INSIDE THE BAG OF BROWN RICE
WHERE'S THE CUP?
AH..!!
I WRAPPED IT IN A THICK TOWEL
SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THE SHARDS GETTING IN THE RICE!!
It'd be great if he's telling the truth
THEN WHERE IS THE SILVERWARE?
I DON'T KNOW.

DON'T PLAY DUMB!!
THE SILVER-WARE ON THE LEFT DRAWER WERE TAKEN.
THINK OF YOUR HAND POSITION,
IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO PICK IT FROM THE LEFT SIDE WITH YOUR RIGHT HAND
WHICH MEANS IT'S THE WORK OF SOMEONE LEFT-HANDED!!
I SAW YOU WRITING WITH YOUR LEFT HAND ON THE BOARD!!
I REALLY DON'T KNOW!!

EVEN IF I STOLE IT IN THE FIRST PLACE
I DON'T KNOW WHERE TO SELL THESE THINGS FOR MONEY
Why doesn't he
avoid eye con-tact...
If he'd done some-thing wrong
he'd not bear to face me like this—
.....

WE WILL CONTACT YOU LATER
ABOUT THE PUNISHMENT OF BREAKING THE CUP
.....
I REALLY AM SORRY

.....
...SO THE SILVERWARE WAS TAKEN BY SOMEONE ELSE—

With that flawed assumption,
it is difficult to use the same reasoning on the the culprit of the silverware.
BECAUSE KABI-SAMA'S ASSUMPTION WAS BASED ON THE TEACUP'S BOX
EVEN IF WE SUE YUKIKURA SHIN
THE CHARGES WILL MOSTLY BE COMPENSATORY "
OR THE DAMAGES
EXCUSE ME, BUT
DEDUCTING THE PAYMENT OF BROKEN THINGS FROM THE SERVANT'S ALLOWANCE
IS AN ACTION NOT PREFORMED BY GENEROUS EMPLOYERS.

WITH KAEI-SAMA'S OPEN-HEARTEDNESS,
I BELIVE YOU WILL EXECUTE A WISE JUDGMENT.
#7.
EXCUSE ME.
IS THAT AN INSULT I SENSE HIDDEN IN WHAT YOU SAID ?
.....
ARE YOU TAKING THE SIDE OF THE CULPRIT?

NO, THAT'S NOT—
THE TRUTH IS
THAT YOU KNOW WHO STOLE THE SILVERWARE
AND YOUR TRYING TO COVER THEM—?
Ah... That's right.
IN THE FIRST PLACE, THERE'S NO WAY THE CULPRIT WOULD HIDE THE SILVERWARE IN THE SAME PLACE...
ALTHOUGH KNOWING THE NEED FOR PROTECTING THE SITE OF THE INCIDENT, YOU DIDN'T STOP ME FROM SEARCHING INSIDE THE HOUSE.
YOU ALSO EXPRESSED YOUR OPINION REGARDING THE PUNISHMENT OF THE CULPRIT.
that's right.
AND WHY DID YOU URGE THE NEED TO REPORT THE INCIDENT AFTER SEEING THE GARDEN?
EVEN THOUGH YOU REFUSED BEFORE- SAYING THAT IT WOULD HARM THE REPUTATION OF OUR FAMILY
The more I think of it

everything becomes connected—...!
OR WAS IT BECAUSE YOU ERASED THE TRACES OF THE CRIME?
IT APPEARS THAT YOU ARE TIRED KAEI-SAMA
IT WOULD BE BETTER IF YOU REST FOR A WHILE
IF YOU WANT TO SAY YOU ARE INNOCENT,
BRING THE CULPRIT HERE RIGHT NOW.
!!

I CANNOT BRING SOMEONE WHOM I DO NOT KNOW
AND YOU CALL YOURSELF A BUTLER.
OOTORI CAN CLEAR THIS UP LIKE IT'S NOTHING.
I KNOW THE REASON WHY YOU'RE TAKING THE CULPRIT'S SIDE!
KAEI-SAMA,
PLEASE RELEASE YOUR GRIP
YOU DIDN'T WANT YOUR RESPONSIBILITY FOR OVERSEEING THE SERVANTS TO BE QUESTIONED, RIGHT?

OOTORI'S ONLY MISTAKE WAS MAKING YOU A BUTLER IN HIS STEAD.
I guessed right...
Some-one like you...

!?
Can't be Ootori's replace-ment!
OOTORI THIS AND OOTORI THAT, SHUT UP!

THE ONE WHO REGRETS THAT OOTORI-SAN IS NO LONGER A BUTLER IS ME!!*
*"I" HE SAYS IT IN AN INFORMAL LANGUAGE HERE
HUH?
"ORE"...?
I'VE ALWAYS ADMIRED OOTORI-SAN'S SKILLS
I WANTED HIM TO ACKNOWLEDGE ME SO I WORKED SO HARD
AND I WAS GETTING USED TO MY JOB AS A FOOTMEN, THEN WHAT?
HEIR...?!

I DIDN'T WANT TO BABYSIT THIS DAMN BRAT
I STUDIED SO HARD WHILE WORKING TO GET THIS?
DAMN BRAT...?
THAT'S MY LINE!!
I WAS LOOKING FORWARD FOR OOTORI TO BE MY BUTLER.
I DIDN'T ASK FOR SOMEONE LIKE YOU, I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW YOU EXISTED!!

YOU APPEARED SUDDENLY...!!
PRETENDING TO SERVE ME WHILE MOCKING ME ON THE INSIDE?!
...WHAT DO YOU THINK?
A MASTER NOT WORTHY OF MY DEVOTION...
EVEN MOCKING HIM WOULD BE A WASTE OF TIME.

//
A GUY LIKE YOU
DOESN'T DESERVE TO BE CALLED A BUTLER!!!

I've had it.
Some-one like him—...!!
IF YOU WILL EXCUSE ME.

KAEI-SAMA,
IT HAS BEEN A WHILE.
O... OOTO-RI!?

Is this a dream...?
Aah..
It's Ootori...
HOW ARE YOU?
YOU'VE GROWN SO MUCH

ARE THE THINGS STOLEN...
THE SILVER-WARE?

OOTORI, THERE'S A PROBLEM!!
THERE'S A THIEF—

KAEI-SAMA, COME THIS WAY, PLEASE
KISARAGI...
YES!!
!
HOW DID YOU...
YOU COME AS WELL..

UTENSIL STORAGE ROOM...?
PLEASE CONFIRM.
!!
WHY...
IS IT COM-PLETE?!
OOTO-RI,
WHAT KIND OF MAGIC TRICK DID YOU USE?

THE THIEF THIS TIME IS SOMETHING LIKE A MIRAGE
...I THINK THAT
MIRAGE...?
WHAT KIND OF DECEPTION
YESTERDAY, A LOT OF UNFORTUNATE INCIDENTS OCCURRED
I WILL TELL YOU ABOUT THE INCIDENT

THE FIRST WAS, SHINICHIROU-SAMA MOVING FROM THIS HOUSE.
THE SECOND WAS THE ABSENCE OF THE COOK YUKIKURA KANAE
...THE LAST WAS THAT YOU WERE QUICK TO REVEAL THE INCIDENT
!!
IT'S NOT LIKE I'M BLAMING YOU KISARAGI
IT IS A NATURAL THING TO DO AS A SERVANT.
—YES.
WELL THEN,
AFTER HEARING THAT SHINICHIROU-SAMA WOULD BE MOVING OUT,
YUKIKURA REFRAINED FROM BUYING ANY INGREDIENTS AS NOT TO WASTE THEM

SHE PREPARED FOR BUYING THE INGREDIENTS AS SOON AS YOUR ARRIVAL, KAEI-SAMA
BUT SHE HURT HER BACK AND COULD NOT PREPARE ANYTHING
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, THERE WAS A MOUNTAIN OF INGREDIENTS IN THE KITCHEN THAT KATASE-SAN HAD ORDERED
MOREOVER SHUN ADDED ROCK SUGAR, CONDENSED MILK AND COOKING WINE TO THE BUYING LIST
KAEI-SAMA HAS HAD EXCELLENT OBSERVATION SKILLS SINCE CHILDHOOD
THAT'S RIGHT, LAST NIGHT THE COOKING WINE HAD FINISHED,
BUT THIS HOUSE HAS PLENTY OF WINE STORED
THE WINE CELLAR!!

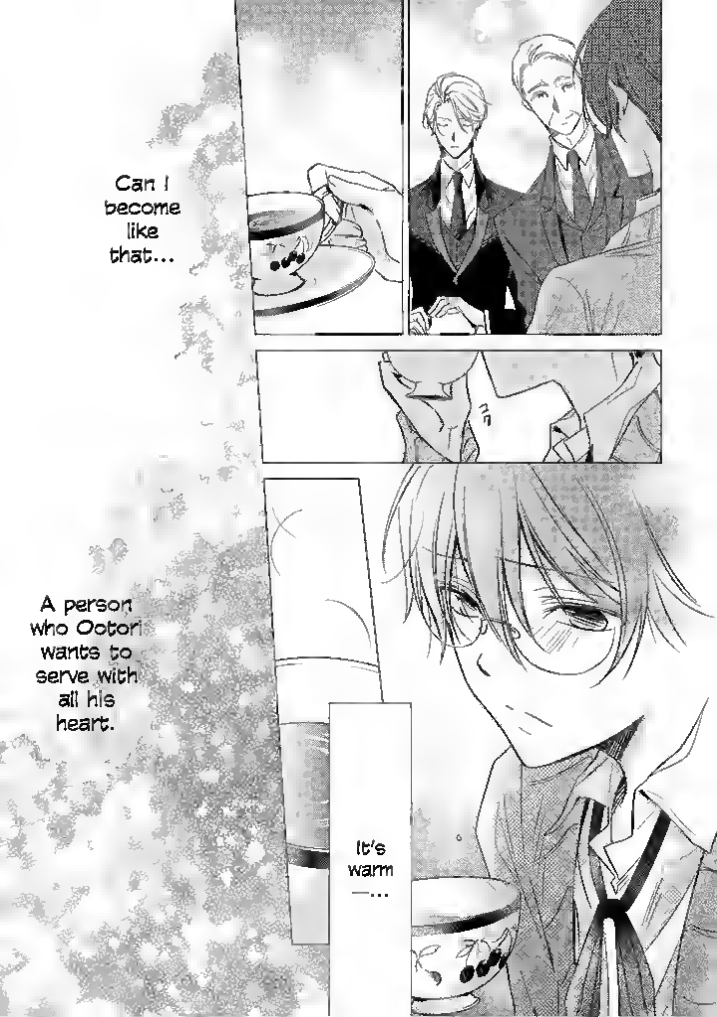
IT'S AN ATTRACTIVE PLACE FOR SOMEONE WHO LIKES WINE
THAT PERSON WAS LOOKING FOR A SUBSTITUTE FOR THE COOKING WINE AND WENT TO THE WINE CELLAR
THAT'S RIGHT. EVEN IF THERE IS NO COOKING WINE, THERE IS A WINE CELLAR,
AND THAT IS WHAT CREATED THE MIRAGE
INSTEAD OF COOKING WINE, IT MEANS THAT
THE PERSON IS—
KATASE YUKA.

When she was preparing dinner for Kisaragi, she tried some wine.
But she was a heavy drinker.
Even after preparing Kisaragi's dinner, she drank more wine.
She drank until she was unconscious of her own actions.
Then she,
with the glass wine in her hand,
held the silverware with her left hand—!!
When she woke up in the morning with no recollection of what happened.
She found the silverware in her bag. The shock was not something trivial

THE WINE GLASS IN THE CLOSET ROOM
WAS THE ONE KATASE USED
Without asking him, I assumed that Kisaragi had drank the wine.
I labeled him as a bad person and doubted him...

*T/N: From the Emperor's New Clothes
It's like the naked Emperor.
While his servants applauded.
the people were laughing and ridiculing him.
"A master not worthy of my devotion."
He was the one who chose to be naked—...
It was because he was foolish...
Does Ootori also think the same?

That's why...
He won't become my butler—
KAEI-SAMA.
FROM LONG AGO, THERE WAS ALWAYS PROBLEMS REGARDING SERVANTS.
WHAT?
IT IS A MATTER THAT HAPPENS TO ALL EMPLOYERS,
BUT THE REACTION TO SUCH ACTIONS EXTREMELY VARIES


Can I become like that...
A person who Ootori wants to serve with all his heart.
It's warm —...

...WE CANNOT CATCH A MIRAGE.
SEND YUKIKURA KANAE A TEA CUP
AND KATASE YUKA A BOTTLE OF WINE
INFORM YUKI-KURA SHUN THAT HE WILL CARRY ON HIS DUTIES UNTIL HIS MOTHER RECOVERS

UNDER-STOOD.
BUT
HOW DID YOU KNOW THAT KATASE DRANK THE WINE?
DID YOU IN-TERROGATE HER...?

I THINK THIS IS THE BEST COURSE OF ACTION
EVEN THOUGH YOU TOLERATED HER ACTIONS, YOU SENT HER A BOTTLE OF WINE AS TO SAY YOU KNOW ABOUT IT
HUH
NO.
KATASE DOES NOT KNOW THAT WE KNOW WHAT HAPPENED
IF YOU DIDN'T ASK HER DIRECTLY, IT MEANS THAT YOU GUESSED IT, RIGHT?
IT'S NOT LIKE I'M DOUBTING YOU
He's totally hooked on me.
THE FACT THAT A WINE HAS BEEN TAKEN
IS SOMETHING EASY TO FIGURE OUT.
THE WORD BUTLER COMES FROM THE OLD FRENCH WORD BOUTEILLER,
WHICH MEANS THE BOTTLE BEARER.*
*AN OFFICER IN CHARGE OF WINE

EVERY-DAY?
YES
A BUTLER MUST COUNT AND CHECK THE WINE IN THE MANSION EVERYDAY.
YUKIKURA SHUN COMMUTES BY THE BICYCLE
WHICH MEANS HE CAN'T RIDE WHEN DRUNK.
ALSO...
KISARAGI IS NOT SOMEONE WHO DOES THAT KIND OF THING.
I GUARANTEE THAT
!?

.....
KAEI-SAMA
IF YOU WOULD ALLOW ME TO SPEAK
YEAH? I DON'T MIND
THIS ROOM
NO, THE WHOLE HOUSE, WAS IT CLEANED BY YOU, OOTORI-SAN?

That's right, we left the house a mess after searching it!!
AH!!
CLEANED UP ?
When did he—
KISARAGI, IT'S THE JOB OF THE BUTLER TO
CREATE A PLEASANT PLACE FOR HIS MASTER

YES.
KAEI-SAMA,
I AM SORRY ABOUT WHAT I HAD SAID BEFORE
IT WAS ALL DUE TO MY LACK OF MORALITY.

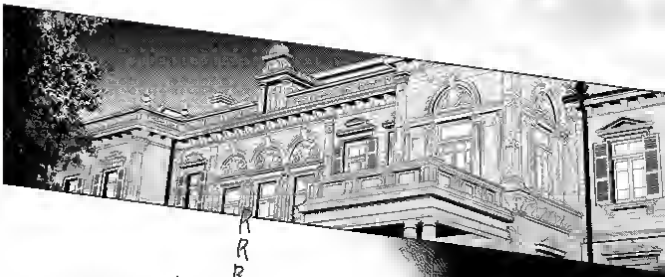
I AM REALLY SORRY...
...NO.
I TOO, SAID TOO MUCH...
SORRY.
As a master...

I too,
have a lot to learn...
.....?

Hehe.
You will both grow up...
until you reach the optimum master-butler relationship.
One day,

I will become a master that

you will serve with all your heart—...



R
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Hi, Kael
You sound well
FATHER,
WHERE ARE YOU NOW?!
It was terrible in here!!
Retiring suddenly like this and naming me the succes-sor!!
When I came back home there were a lot of people I didn t know. Please think of my feelings!!

AND WHEN OOTORI CAME BACK HOME YOU TOOK HIM AWAY.
ISN'T THAT TERRIBLE!!
You can go wherever you want but give Ootori back!!
Hehe
KAE!..
*The future looking g...
OOTORI IS MY BUTLER.
Bye bye
:)
Just you wait!!
To Be Continued

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